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June 1980

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

June - 1980

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

June, 1980

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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Volume 10 Number 6

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicatprs used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

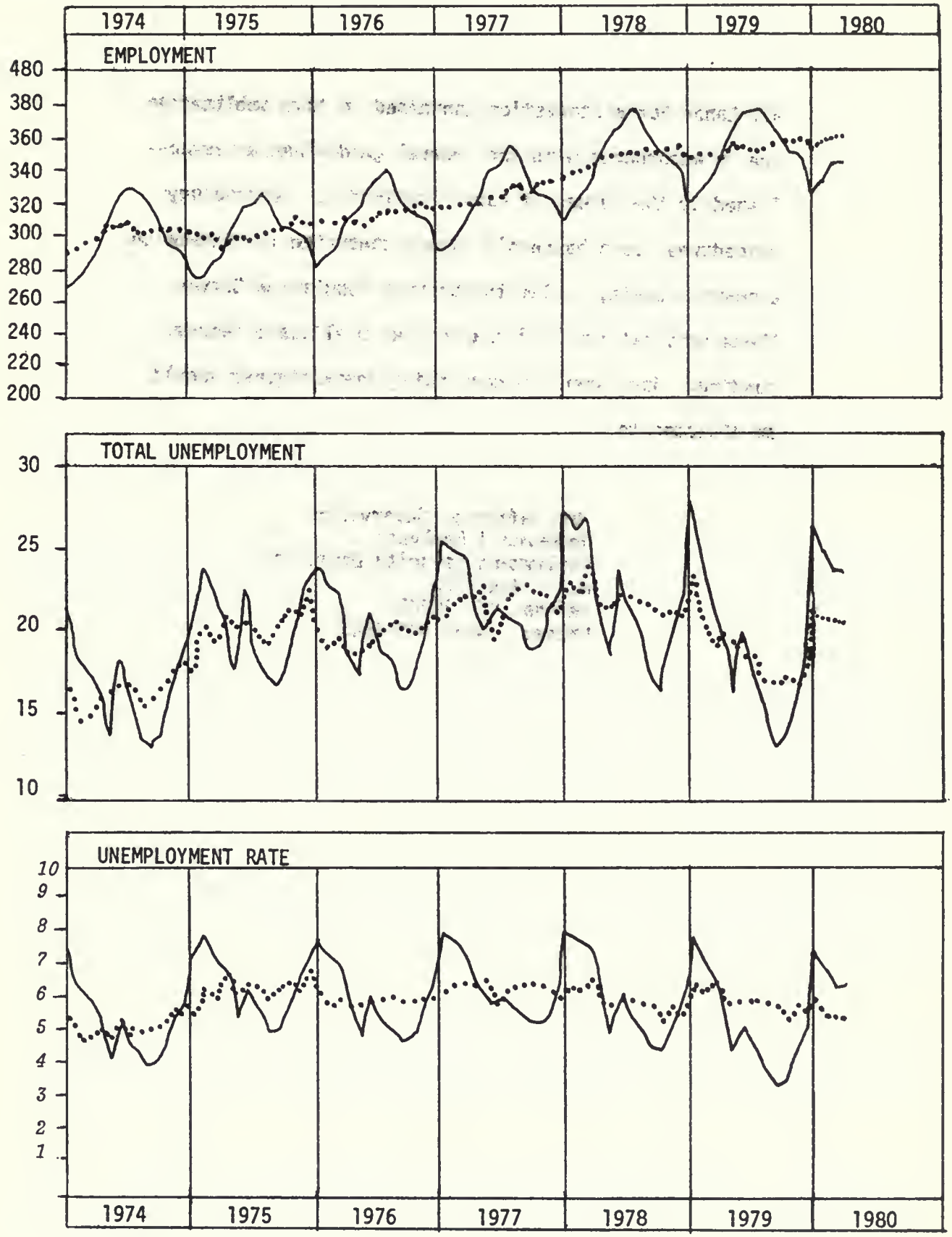
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: .....)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

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STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS

Normal seasonal increases added to the civilian labor force. The total rose from 373,100 in April to 378,200 in May, an increase of 1.4%. Last year at this time, Montana's civilian labor force totaled 372,000, 1.7% less that the current total for May. The employment total rose considerably from April to May. An increase of 10,500 was recorded from April to May, giving a total of 359,200 employed persons, which is only 1.1% higher than the employment number for May, 1979.

As the civilian labor force and employment numbers rose during May, the unemployment total dropped by 5,400. Nineteen thousand unemployed persons in May compares to 24,400 in April. One year ago in May, the unemployment total was 16,700. After remaining at 6.5% for both March and April, the unemployment rate dropped substantially to 5.0% for May, 1980. This is only half a percentage point higher than the unemployment rate for May, 1979 of 4.5%.

Montana's wheat crop forecast highlights economic activity during this reporting period. The winter wheat crop is expected to be the worst in ten years. Poor germination last fall and continued dry weather in many wheat areas this spring are blamed for the poor crop prospects.

Some areas in the western part of the state are averaging over 200% of normal precipitation for this time of year. The drought is blamed for the large number of cattle entering the livestock markets in eastern Montana. While eastern Montana is facing possible agricultural disaster, farmers and ranchers in western Montana have complained about too much rain.

High interest rates continue to have an effect on Montana's housing industry. Interest rates are holding at 13% to 13.75% across the state. People just aren't able to buy at these rates. The $43 million of "Low Interest" mortgage money, by the Montana Board of Housing, doesn't appear to be making a great deal of difference. Nationally, sales of new single family homes fell 21 percent in April, equaling the largest drop in 17 years. Building permits in Montana totaled 582 for May, 1980 compared to 1,041 for May, 1979. Most of these consist of remodeling and additions to existing structures.

Last month $6 million in contracts were awarded in Montana for road and highway work. A Billings company got half that total with two of the biggest jobs. Just recently, low bids totaling $21 million on eight projects were opened by the state Highway Commission. The largest project received a bid of $12,200,000 by a company out of Washington.

As cuts are being made to school districts and also city budgets, a number of layoffs are reported in both areas. Lumber and wood products workers are returning to work, some only long enough to fill orders and then they are let go again. Projections of a Helena consultant firm indicate a possibility of 1,125 additional jobs in Montana if coal is exported to the Far East. These jobs are expected to occur by the year 2,000.

Montana's Composite Index dropped by 6.5 points from March to April. Manufacturing Layoffs, Manufacturing Employment and Average Weekly Initial Claims accounted for the biggest part of this decline. Preliminary indications point toward a bounce back in May.

BILLINGS SMSA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

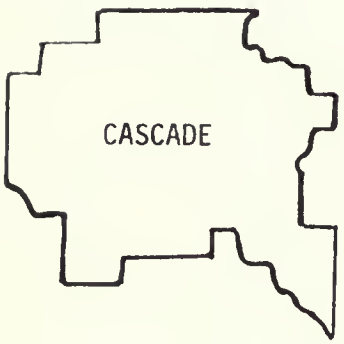
	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	56.6	56.6	54.8	--	1.8
Employment	54.5	54.0	53.1	0.5	1.4
Unemployment	2.1	2.6	1.7	.5	1.4
Unemployment Rate	*3.7*	*4.5*	*3.1*	*0.8*	*0.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Billings area is highlighted by layoffs and business closings. School District #2 budget cuts were outlined, and the $1.3 million cut could affect approximately 77 employees. The Billings City Council continues deliberation over budget and staff. Approximately 73 employees have been notified that they will no longer have jobs on July 1st. A number of businesses are closing in the SMSA. A trucking service and a saloon have closed. Six persons at each business were laid off. Businesses are now anticipating layoffs, where they have not had any for years. Some will not be hiring their usual summer crew because they are having trouble keeping the regular crew busy. Others are reporting a cut of hours to 32 hours per week.

Phase II construction on a hospital has been completed. The total cost of the project was approximately $14 million. Three new eating establishments are nearly open. Two of them are new construction projects. Building permits for April in the Billings area are down by $5,211,915 compared to April, 1979. The carpenters are back to work as their labor dispute was settled. Twenty projects that were shutdown have started up again. The Cheyenne tribe and oil company officials have been negotiating an oil exploration and drillnng agreement. If approved, this agreement would have a substantial impact on the economy of the area. A possible six million dollars could be paid to the tribe soon and drilling would start within days if agreement is reached.

GREAT FALLS SMSA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	33.4	33.1	34.2	.3	-.8
Employment	31.6	30.9	32.4	.7	-.8
Unemployment	1.8	2.2	1.8	-.4	0
Unemployment Rate	*5.4*	*6.7*	*5.3*	*-1.3*	*.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Boosted by construction of a $1.6 million nationally affiliated discount store, Great Falls building statistics climbed to $2.1 million in May, nearly $1 million more than May of 1979. For the last six months, permits have been obtained for $7,846,201 worth of construction, up $2.4 million from the same six months a year ago. However, more than half of recent building construction work is from the public sector such as a downtown parking ramp, civic center improvements, and subsidized housing.

May often is a prime time for housing construction to start, but the high interest rates are causing a slow start with just eight housing permits requested in May. By way of contrast, 18 permits for 22 housing units were taken out in May 1979; 35 permits for single-family dwellings were issued in May 1978; and 30 permits for 69 housing units were taken out in May 1977.

Spring seeding operations are complete, including reseeding of winter wheat kill area. Recent heavy rains will improve the crop outlook. However, the rain also created some flooding damage in the southwest section of Great Falls.

Reports from the local Job Service office indicate that hiring has mostly been active in the trade and service industries with a steady demand for agriculture workers. Layoffs of school workers for the summer have affected all area schools.

Additional construction activity includes more highway projects, renovation work on the post office, hospital expansion for open heart surgery, and renovation work at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	33.6	33.3	34.6	.3	-1.0
Employment	31.9	31.2	32.8	.7	-.9
Unemployment	1.7	2.1	1.8	-.4	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.1*	*6.3*	*5.2*	*-1.2*	*-.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A Dillon area lumber mill began running a nearly normal day shift this period after laying off almost all of its 90 employees in mid-April because of poor lumber market conditions. Operations are still subject to week-to-week market conditions and longer range forecasts of production remain uncertain. Building permits in Butte-Silver Bow during May fell behind the May 1979 level. Permits were issued to build eight homes--compared to nine one year ago. Permit valuations are also down from last year: over $500,000 compared to $875,000 in 1979. Plans are going ahead for building a new motel in Butte. Previous work was halted last summer under violent circumstances as non-union work progressed. Union workers will be used this time. Highway construction activity, which had been progressing well, was slowed this period by heavy rains throughout the LMA. Three mining facilities in Butte were shutdown by a labor dispute this period. Twelve-hundred workers were idled in the dispute which lasted four days. Non-union employees at a Butte energy research facility who were the object of several labor disputes in the past have voted to unionize; future work stoppages at the facility hopefully will not be as numerous.

Actions by retailers in the LMA this period were mixed. Several small businesses closed or are planning to close soon. At the same time, however, others are relocating or expanding facilities. Twenty-one employees will be hired by a department store which plans to open in the uptown Butte area in early August. Employment was cut in Butte by a national retailer when a retail facility was closed. A catalog outlet will continue operations, however, approximately 23 positions will be lost. There was little hiring done in the retail area this period. An increase was noted this period in service industries due to tourism and conventions. A slowdown in westbound traffic due to volcanic ash fallout also boosted service activity. In Deer Lodge, a crew of 16 has moved in temporarily to film a major motion picture. The production company will hire up to 150 extras.

Agricultural activity in the LMA was quite slow this period. Heavy rains have delayed the start of haying operations and few calls for workers were noted. In the Dillon area, a Japanese concern has expressed interest in buying 10,000 tons of alfalfa. Also in Dillon, a seismograph crew of 50 persons has moved into the area. Fifty to eighty new jobs could be created in the Garrison area if an old phosphate plant is reopened. Out-of-state firms have expressed an interest in reopening the plant which closed in 1976 after a series of legal battles over pollution problems.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	26.6	26.3	26.8	.3	-.2
Employment	25.2	24.6	25.8	.6	-.6
Unemployment	1.4	1.7	1.0	-.3	.4
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.6	3.7	-1.5	1.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

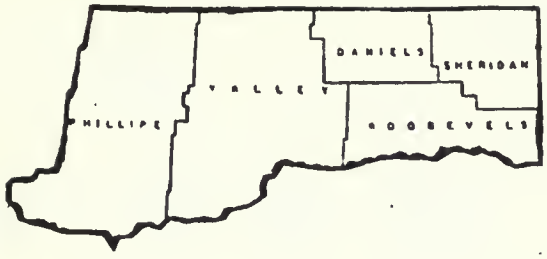
More layoff's in the railroad industry continue to headline upward movement in the number of people unemployed within the local LMA. Thirty-three were laid off the end of May with speculation that more would be laid off this summer. Substantial reductions in shipments of coal, lumber and grain have contributed to these layoffs. Seasonal activity in the tourist trade industry in the Livingston area has been slow. Additionally, seasonal layoff of non-professional school employees have further negated any significant draw-down of the unemployment rate.

Activity which has generated employment within the LMA include the service area, primarily restaurant and motel workers, and retail clerks. A major chain store has begun interviews to fill a projected 80 full and part-time positions. Most agricultural help has been hired, however, a demand for irrigators can be expected as the dry weather season approaches.

Construction work has been centered mainly on public works projects and shopping centers. Agreement has been made to construct a five million dollar convention center with a start date this summer. Plans for a four million dollar sewage plant complex appear to be finalized with a start date during September 1980. The second of three stages of Mammoth's complete rehabilitation of its water system is on schedule. Stage two consists of the building of the water treatment plant and stage three, a new intake system. The estimated date of completion for this project is in the fall of 1981.

Mining exploration activity by several major firms continue in the Park County area. Some start-up dates have been delayed due to heavy snowpack at high mountain sites. An environmental analysis for gas leases in the Absaroka, Bridger, Beartooth, Gallatin, Madison and Crazy ranges is continuing. Some mining activity in older, smaller gold mines has been seen, as a result of gold prices remaining about $500 per ounce level.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	18.2	18.0	17.5	.2	.7
Employment	17.7	17.4	16.9	.3	.8
Unemployment	.5	.6	.6	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*2.7*	*3.3*	*3.6*	*-.6*	*-.9*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The condition of the winter wheat crop highlights the area economy this period. The statewide crop may be the worst since 1970 and a June 1 forecast calls for 42 million bushels--27% below last years harvest. Conditions are particularly severe in the Glasgow LMA due to a lack of rain and some ranches are moving livestock onto winter wheat for feeding. The low harvest will be due to both reduced acreage and low yield. Winter wheat accounts for about 75% of U.S. wheat production and the overall U.S. harvest is expected to be a record 1.76 billion bushels. Wind erosion of soil is also very severe in the area due to a lack of snow cover and spring rains. Thirty-thousand acres alone are damaged in Roosevelt County--statewide the total is 563,000 acres. Because of the dry conditions employment in agriculture is down and job openings have been limited.

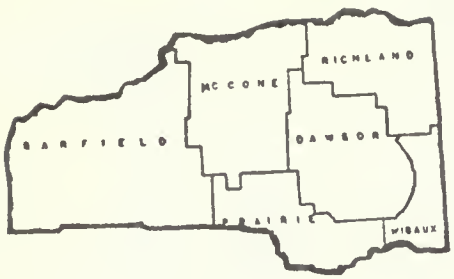
Work in oil exploration was slow this period due to dry conditions. Three crews suspended work due to fire danger and left the area. Many of the local workers were able to transfer, however. Two crews did set up operations near Wolf Point, though, and many positions were filled with local workers.

Activity at a Glasgow area industrial park could pick up significantly this summer. Crew training and aircraft testing started this period for an airline and also an aircraft manufacturer. Other airlines might also use the facility this summer. Also the park will be used as a staging area for a pipeline company doing work in Valley County.

Construction activity was mixed this period. One company moved into the area to replace sewer and water lines and several workers were hired through a local Job Service office. The dry weather allowed work to continue on a highway project near Glasgow and the project should be completed by the end of July. Little activity was noted in home and building construction and there were some layoffs of laborers and carpenter helpers.

Merchants report retail activity to be equal to, or exceeding, year ago levels. Two auto dealers closed this period, however, and a total of 26 workers were layed off. Though the demand for workers has been light in all sectors of the economy, 50 youths have secured jobs through a youth employment service in its first month of operation.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	15.4	14.8	15.3	.6	.1
Employment	15.1	14.4	14.9	.7	.2
Unemployment	.3	.4	.4	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*2.1*	*2.8*	*2.6*	*-.7*	*-.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Shortages of experienced workers in numerous occupations were noted this period in the LMA. Sugar beet laborers, electricians, line erectors, restaurant and tavern help, medical personnel, and welders were needed by employers. However, there is, and has been, little housing available for workers coming into the area. Job Service offices report numerous people coming into the area seeking employment, but jobs cannot be secured due to a lack of experience or housing.

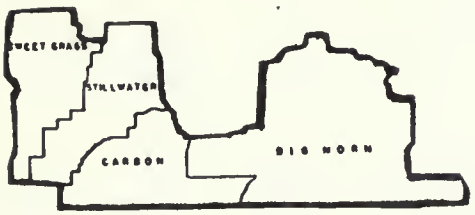
Activity in agriculture was slowed later in the period by heavy rains which were badly needed. The major activities were sugar-beet thinning, irrigation, cultivating, and seeding. Also, extensive fence repair is being done on over 100,000 acres of rangeland which burned recently.

Several construction projects continued through the period, though there are no major jobs underway. Projects in Sidney include residential and remodeling jobs, a new building for a drilling-mud company, and preliminary work on a housing complex for oilfield service company personnel. In Glendive, work was brought to a halt temporarily on a highway project due to material shortages. As work progressed after materials came in, some employees were laid off when the dirt work neared completion.

Oil exploration and development progressed through most of the period after being slowed first by weather too dry and then too wet. Oil field service companies have been very busy and may be hiring additional workers as they pick up business. There was no hiring of workers on drilling rigs this period.

Activity in the retail and wholesale sectors is reportedly better than this time last year. There was little new hiring done this period, however.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	13.4	13.1	13.3	.3	.1
Employment	12.9	12.4	12.9	.5	0
Unemployment	.5	.7	.4	-.2	.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.6*	*5.1*	*3.2*	*-1.5*	*.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

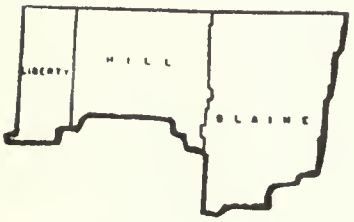
The development of coal mining on the Crow Reservation is concentrated in the marketing stage of obtaining buyers for the coal. The high transportation cost is a big factor the producers have to look at in terms of coal sales.

Wyoming's Sheridan County officials want more northern Wyoming residents hired for coal developments that are just over the border in Montana. Sheridan County officials state recently established coal mines are utilizing an imported work force that is causing hardships on the local communities services and development.

The latest target for job demand is the planned mining of the Crow Indian Reservation land; however, the lease agreement has preferential hiring of Crow workers. Spring Creek, a recently state approved new community to develop this summer near Decker, will help relieve some of the burden Wyoming communities have experienced from the fast expansion of coal mining.

With the summer season underway, businesses in the LMA are gearing up for tourism and seasonal recreational activities. Yellowstone Park officials have expressed concern with the maintenance of the park's facilities and roads budget not keeping up with the cost involved in doing a good job of maintenance.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	13.9	13.6	13.4	.3	.5
Employment	13.3	12.8	12.9	.5	.4
Unemployment	.6	.8	.5	-.2	.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.3*	*5.5*	*3.7*	*-1.2*	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

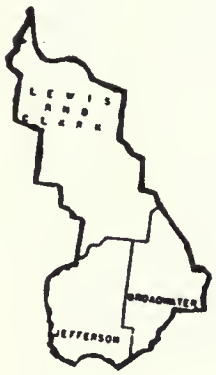
Unemployment claims increased this period due to layoffs from schools in the area. Hiring in most sectors of the economy continues to be slow due to economic factors and layoffs in the construction industry. The wholesale and retail sectors did hire workers through the period, but at a reduced pace compared to previous years. Hiring in agriculture was very slow through the period. Hiring trends did pick up pace towards the end of the period, however, after rain fell in the area.

Construction in the area has been quite slow, with home construction at a virtual standstill. Two major commercial projects continue, but not much hiring has been done locally. Many of the union workers are coming out of Great Falls for these jobs.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	28.6	28.3	28.7	.3	-.1
Employment	27.4	26.8	27.4	.6	--
Unemployment	1.2	1.5	1.3	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.2*	*5.3*	*4.4*	*-1.1*	*-.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Three major construction projects highlight economic activity this period in the LMA. Work began on a $10 million remodeling and expansion project at a Helena hospital. Construction is expected to take 18 months and is being financed through the sale of industrial revenue bonds by the city of Helena. Work continued on a new 425-foot high smokestack at a smelter in East Helena. The $2.9 million project should be finished next spring. Work also continued on a project in the capitol complex which began last fall. Other construction activity was slow through the period with little hiring being done. Home construction is expected to pick up soon, as interest rates on mortgages drop-but any resurgence in activity in this area will not come during the prime building season.

There was little hiring being done this period in most occupations. However, employers did recruit through Job Service offices for administrators, auditors, computer personnel, and qualified clerical workers. Agriculture hiring was also slow-due mostly to heavy rains throughout the area, but there were calls for farmhands, fence builders, and tractor operators.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	40.5	40.0	37.9	0.5	2.6
Employment	36.7	35.0	35.2	1.7	1.5
Unemployment	3.8	5.0	2.7	1.2	1.1
Unemployment Rate	*9.5*	*12.5*	*7.2*	*3.0*	*2.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Kalispell LMA reports a decline in layoffs in construction and in the lumber and woods products industry. Interest rates have dropped, although the housing industry has not begun to pick up significantly. Workers appear to have been kept on the crews in anticipation of housing starts. The "Resource 300" program has put about 80 unemployed workers back to work in the Kalispell area. The Libby area also reports 57 persons back to work through the same program. Also in Libby, during this reporting period, a lumber mill has rehired 430 plant workers. This is to continue providing the lumber market improves.

In the Polson area, a small wood products manufacturer is anticipating adding about six persons to a night shift. This is dependent upon financing and an increase in orders. Also, a wood burning stove manufacturer has recalled some additional workers this week. A beehive manufacturing plant has kept a few shifts working steady.

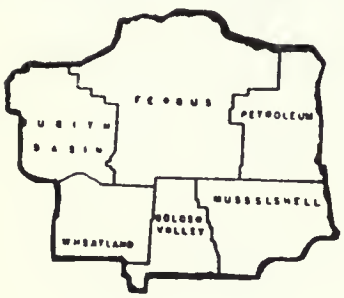
No new major construction projects were reported at this time. An ongoing project on the courthouse in Polson continues. Seventy-five H.U.D. homes are planned throughout the reservation in the Polson area. Besides this, the only construction consists of minor repairs and additions.

Retail and service industries are reported as only moderately active. A large amount of the economy in this area is centered around tourism. It is very important to this LMA that tourism pick up this summer. A large influx of college students are seeking seasonal work. Claims increased in the Kalispell area when a number of school employees were laid off. Rain has nearly stopped all agricultural activity in the area. Due to air pollution caused by volcanic ash, most businesses were closed for a couple of days.

LEWISTOWN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	12.0	11.7	11.7	.3	.3
Employment	11.6	11.1	11.3	.5	.3
Unemployment	.4	.6	.4	-.2	0
Unemployment Rate	*3.5*	*5.0*	*3.1*	*-1.5*	*.4*

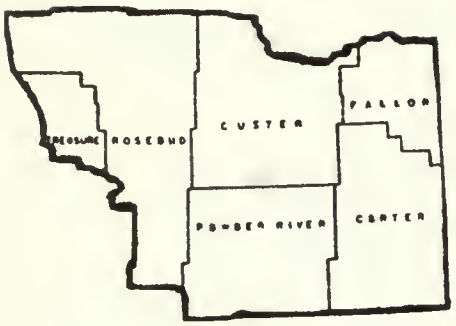
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Plans for construction of at least three ethanol plants in this area were outlined at a recent meeting of the Central Montana Gasahol Council. One program has aspen trees as the raw product to produce ethanol, methanol, and animal food. Another project would utilize an old oil refinery at Mosby to produce five million gallons of ethanol each year. This plant would use local grain in distilling and coal from the Roundup area for energy. The third ethanol plant is anticipated to be near Judith Gap with a dealership for copper stills to produce ethanol.

Construction work continues on schedule on Lewistown's city complex. New projects soon to start include a 18,000 square foot electrical cooperative building in Lewistown and a 140 x 100 facility in Grass Range which will house the shop and home economics department for the Grass Range school. New home construction is still very limited in the LMA.

Leading the employment activities is the public sector with the hiring of fire control fighters. Agriculture employment opportunities are being hampered by the dry climate conditions. The trade and service industries have reduced employment opportunities such that replacement hiring is declining.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	15.7	15.3	15.8	.4	-.1
Employment	15.1	14.6	15.3	.5	-.2
Unemployment	.6	.7	.5	-.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.7*	*4.4*	*3.1*	--	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Announced layoffs of 70 mining employees has had a negative impact on the local LMA employment sector. The reduced demand for Montana coal by major eastern states users was the primary contributing factor for the layoffs. The seasonal transition to cheaper hydro-electric power has further reduced coal demand. The duration of the coal mining layoffs is estimated to be from two weeks to three months.

Labor disputes within the LMA involving laborers, carpenters and boilermakers have either been settled or abated. Some construction delays have resulted from these disputes. Other construction projects nearing completion will result in increased availability of some union crafts, particularly in the heavy construction trades.

Local construction continues to seasonally increase. A new motel complex has provided employment for approximately 30 workers. A delay in the scheduled December 1980 opening of a new school has arisen due to a shortage of brick and a two-week labor dispute. Very limited housing construction has been experienced and primary attention has been directed to pre-existing home remodeling, additions, and roofing.

New business openings include a shoe store, supper club, and a used car outlet. A state liquor store and quick-stop grocery are in pre-construction stages. Bids for widening and resurfacing Highway 39 between Colstrip and Forsyth have been received by the Montana Department of Highways. Award of this contract will create employment for union equipment operators, laborers, and truck drivers.

Significant rainfall has been experienced within the LMA, primarily in the Miles City area. Impact on local agriculture is difficult to assess, as some seeding had been delayed. Due to the limited and late moisture this season, decreasee production could be expected, which in turn, would reduce the prosperity of the LMA's economy.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	51.7	51.3	50.0	0.4	1.7
Employment	48.3	46.6	47.1	1.7	1.2
Unemployment	3.4	4.7	2.9	1.3	0.5
Unemployment Rate	*6.6*	*9.2*	*5.8*	*2.6*	*0.8*

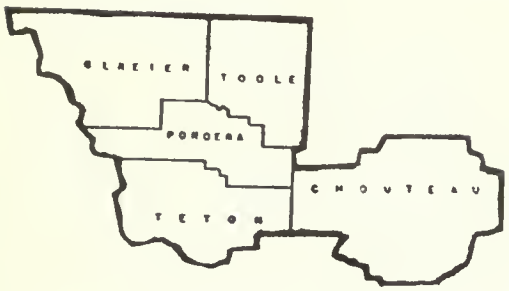
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Missoula LMA reports some of the sawmills and wood products plants have shown some improvement. Most mills and plants have called at least some employees back to work. The problem is far from being out af a slump, but is less critical than it was. One company, which is in the process of closing, has indicated they will lay off all their sawmill workers around the middle of July. All plywood activities in this plant have been phased out. Other plants are calling employees back as they need them and letting them go again when the orders run out. Governor Judge's project, "Resource 300", placed 35 claimants out of the Thompson Falls area. Nineteen positions were also open in Hamilton for this project.

In the construction industry, HUD gave the o.k. for 50 low-income units to be built throughout Missoula. All of the housing will be multi-family dwellings no smaller than triplexes. Plans for a gasahol plant at Hot Springs was announced. The plant capacity will be five million gallons of ethanol, enough to prepare 50 million gallons of gasahol annually. Jobs will be provided for 50-to-60 employees. The cost is estimated at $10-to-15 million. Plans for a new hospital in Missoula, to replace an existing facility, were also announced. The county commissioners have decided to sponsor the $4 million revenue bonds to start on a plaza and a discount store in the Hamilton area. Work continues on a portion of Highway 93 through Hamilton. In the Missoula area, building permits totaled 53 for May, with a valuation of $10,877,000. The value of permits in May, 1979 is less than 10% of the May, 1979 numbers.

Some businesses in the Missoula area that have reported closing include a hardware store and a ladies clothing store in a shopping center, and an automobile dealer, who has been in business for 50 years. A rough estimate as to the cost of the ash fallout in the Missoula area is $5.7 million, and this includes only wages and retail sales lost during the standstill which lasted nearly a week. Two Hamilton businesses received word that their grants were approved, and between the two of them, there will be approximately 87 jobs to be filled.

SHELBY-CUT BANK' LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980	May 1979
Civilian Labor Force	18.4	17.9	18.1	0.5	0.3
Employment	17.7	16.9	17.4	0.8	0.3
Unemployment	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.3	--
Unemployment Rate	*4.0*	*5.5*	*4.0*	*1.5*	--

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Shelby-Cut Bank LMA remained relatively steady during this reporting period. No new major projects were reported. The new motel complex near the shopping center in Cut Bank is now open for business. Construction of the new Heart Butte elementary school is nearly 75% completed. It is expected to be completed by January 1st. Building activity in the Conrad area has picked up with a few new homes under construction. The main construction acitivity reported in the Cut Bank area is remodeling and road repair work.

Oilfield activity is picking up in the East Glacier area with two new rigs moving in. The Blackfoot Tribe has leased to oil companies. This is expected to have a large bearing on local economic activity.

Claims have gone up in this area due to the fact that all school employees from School District #9 and #1, Head Start programs, and the Community Free School in Browning have filed for unemployment. Some jobs were being filled in the Shelby area as spring week spraying for rural county was beginning. Also, the Marias Fair Board was accepting applications for summer ground keepers.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

May 1980

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*
Non-White	*11.1%*
Female	*21.2%*
Youth	*7.1%*
Over 45	*19.3%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. [1/]

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1978		1979		1980	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	187.2	187.1	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3
February	188.4	188.4	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5
March	189.8	189.7	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9
April	191.5	191.4	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6
May	193.3	193.3	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1
June	195.3	195.3	216.6	216.9		
July	196.7	196.7	218.9	219.4		
August	197.8	197.7	221.1	221.5		
September	199.3	199.1	223.4	223.7		
October	200.9	200.7	225.4	225.6		
November	202.0	201.8	227.5	227.6		
December	202.9	202.9	229.9	230.0		
AVERAGE	195.4	195.3	217.4	217.7		

1/ *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1978								
January	337.1	309.7	287.7	22.0	27.4	*8.1*	*7.0*	*
February	339.5	313.1	289.2	23.9	26.4	*7.8*	*6.9*	*
March	350.8	323.7	295.1	28.6	27.1	*7.7*	*6.6*	*
April	361.8	340.0	304.9	35.1	21.8	*6.0*	*5.8*	*
May	369.1	350.2	314.1	36.1	18.9	*5.1*	*5.5*	.1
June	388.1	364.1	322.9	41.2	24.0	*6.2*	*6.2*	.4
July	393.9	372.1	328.0	44.1	21.8	*5.5*	*6.3*	.2
August	395.4	375.1	327.9	47.2	20.3	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
September	383.4	365.6	328.8	36.8	17.8	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
October	369.6	352.9	321.6	31.3	16.7	*4.5*	*5.4*	.1
November	365.0	344.9	318.0	26.9	20.1	*5.5*	*5.5*	*
December	362.3	340.5	317.4	23.1	21.8	*6.0*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	*6.0*	*6.0*	.1
1979								
January	348.8	320.8	299.5	21.3	28.0	*8.0*	*6.4*	*
February	347.9	323.2	300.0	23.2	24.7	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.8
March	353.2	330.7	302.9	27.8	22.5	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	363.5	343.3	309.1	34.2	20.2	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	372.0	355.3	320.0	35.3	16.7	*4.5*	*5.2*	*
June	390.6	370.4	330.2	40.2	20.2	*5.2*	*6.0*	*
July	390.6	372.4	329.4	43.0	18.2	*4.7*	*5.8*	*
August	391.5	376.0	330.0	46.0	15.5	*4.0*	*5.9*	*
September	380.8	367.5	331.6	35.9	13.3	*3.5*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.3	326.8	30.5	13.8	*3.7*	*5.6*	*
November	365.5	349.8	323.6	26.2	15.7	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	364.3	345.3	322.7	22.6	19.0	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.2
1980								
January	348.8	322.4	301.6	20.8	26.4	*7.6*	*6.8*	*
February	353.6	328.7	306.1	22.6	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	1.1
March	364.3	340.5	313.3	27.2	23.8	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	373.1	348.7	315.3	33.4	24.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.3
May	378.2	359.2	324.8	34.4	19.0	*5.0*	*7.0*	.2
June	*397.9*	*374.5*	*335.2*	*39.2*	*23.4*	*5.9*		.5
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1978								
January	32.2	29.4	28.5	.9	2.8	*8.7*	*8.1*	*
February	32.5	29.8	28.9	.9	2.7	*8.4*	*7.8*	*
March	33.2	30.6	29.5	1.1	2.6	*7.8*	*7.7*	*
April	33.9	31.9	30.5	1.4	2.0	*5.9*	*6.0*	*
May	34.5	32.6	31.2	1.4	1.9	*5.6*	*5.1*	*
June	36.2	33.4	31.8	1.6	2.8	*7.6*	*6.2*	*
July	35.1	32.8	31.1	1.7	2.3	*6.6*	*5.5*	*
August	35.8	33.5	31.6	1.9	2.3	*6.3*	*5.1*	*
September	35.3	33.1	31.6	1.5	2.2	*6.2*	*4.6*	*
October	34.4	32.4	31.2	1.2	2.0	*5.8*	*4.5*	*
November	34.3	31.8	30.7	1.1	2.5	*7.3*	*5.5*	*
December	34.2	31.6	30.7	..9	2.6	*7.6*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	*7.0*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	33.5	30.4	29.6	.8	3.1	*9.3*	*8.0*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.1*	*7.1*	*
March	33.4	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.4	*7.3*	*6.4*	*
April	33.8	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.1	*6.3*	*5.6*	*
May	34.2	32.4	31.0	1.4	1.8	*5.3*	*4.5*	*
June	35.8	33.3	31.7	1.6	2.5	*6.9*	*5.2*	*
July	35.2	33.1	31.4	1.7	2.1	*6.1*	*4.7*	*
August	34.9	33.0	31.2	1.8	1.9	*5.3*	*4.0*	*
September	34.4	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.6	*4.6*	*3.5*	*
October	33.6	32.0	30.8	1.2	1.6	*4.7*	*3.7*	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.7	1.0	1.8	*5.3*	*4.3*	*
December	33.1	31.2	30.3	.9	1.9	*5.6*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	32.2	29.5	28.7	.8	2.7	*8.3*	*7.6*	*
February	32.0	29.6	28.7	.9	2.4	*7.5*	*7.0*	*
March	33.0	30.8	29.7	1.1	2.2	*6.8*	*6.5*	*
April	33.1	30.9	29.6	1.3	2.2	*6.7*	*6.5*	*
May	33.4	31.6	30.2	1.4	1.8	*5.4*	*5.0*	.2
June	*35.0*	*32.5*	*30.9*	*1.6*	*2.5*	*7.0*	*5.9*	.2
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1978 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1978								
January	50.4	47.2	46.2	1.0	3.2	*6.4*	*8.1*	*
February	50.4	47.4	46.3	1.1	3.0	*5.9*	*7.8*	*
March	51.6	48.3	47.0	1.3	3.3	*6.3*	*7.7*	*
April	52.0	49.7	48.1	1.6	2.3	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
May	52.8	50.7	49.0	1.7	2.1	*4.0*	*5.1*	*
June	55.1	52.4	50.5	1.9	2.7	*4.9*	*6.2*	*
July	54.6	52.2	50.2	2.0	2.4	*4.3*	*5.5*	*
August	55.1	52.8	50.6	2.2	2.3	*4.2*	*5.1*	*
September	55.8	53.7	52.0	1.7	2.1	*3.7*	*4.6*	*
October	54.4	52.7	51.3	1.4	1.7	*3.1*	*4.5*	*
November	54.5	52.0	50.8	1.2	2.5	*4.6*	*5.5*	*
December	54.6	52.1	51.0	1.1	2.5	*4.7*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	*4.7*	*6.0*	*
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	*6.1*	*8.0*	*
February	52.8	50.1	49.0	1.1	2.7	*5.1*	*7.1*	*
March	53.1	50.7	49.4	1.3	2.4	*4.5*	*6.4*	*
April	54.1	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	*3.1*	*4.5*	*
June	56.8	54.7	52.9	1.8	2.1	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
July	57.1	55.2	53.2	2.0	1.9	*3.3*	*4.7*	*
August	56.9	55.2	53.1	2.1	1.7	*2.9*	*4.0*	*
September	57.1	55.6	54.0	1.6	1.5	*2.5*	*3.5*	*
October	55.9	54.5	53.1	1.4	1.4	*2.6*	*3.7*	*
November	56.1	54.3	53.1	1.2	1.8	*3.1*	*4.3*	*
December	56.2	54.1	53.1	1.0	2.1	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*6.1*	*
1980								
January	55.0	51.9	50.9	1.0	3.1	*5.6*	*7.6*	*
February	55.6	52.5	51.5	1.0	3.1	*5.6*	*7.0*	.7
March	56.6	53.6	52.4	1.2	3.0	*5.3*	*6.5*	.3
April	56.6	54.0	52.5	1.5	2.6	*4.6*	*6.6*	*
May	56.6	54.5	52.9	1.6	2.1	*3.7*	*5.0*	*
June	*58.8*	*56.1*	*54.3*	*1.8*	*2.7*	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1980	May 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	378.2	373.1	372.0	5.1	6.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	359.2	348.7	355.3	10.5	3.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	34.4	33.4	35.3	1.0	-.9
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	19.0	24.4	16.7	-5.4	2.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*5.0*	*6.5*	*4.5*	*-1.5*	*.5*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*5.8*	*6.5*	*5.2*	*-.7*	*.6*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*286.5*	*280.6*	*285.2*	*5.9*	*1.3*
MANUFACTURING	*23.6*	*22.4*	*26.0*	*1.2*	*-2.4*
Durable Goods	*14.8*	*13.6*	*17.2*	*1.2*	*-2.4*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*8.0*	*6.9*	*10.3*	*1.1*	*-2.3*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.0*	*3.0*	*3.2*	*.0*	*- .2*
Other Durable Goods	*3.8*	*3.7*	*3.7*	*.1*	*.1*
Nondurable Goods	*8.8*	*8.8*	*8.9*	*.0*	*- .1*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.9*	*3.9*	*3.8*	*.0*	*.1*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.4*	*.0*	*- .1*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.1*	*1.1*	*1.0*	*.0*	*.1*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.7*	*.0*	*- .2*
MINING	*7.7*	*7.5*	*7.4*	*.2*	*.3*
10 Metal Mining	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*.0*	*.0*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.2*	*.0*	*.2*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*3.2*	*3.1*	*3.2*	*.1*	*.0*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*15.3*	*14.0*	*15.8*	*1.3*	*- .5*
15 General Building Contractors	*4.6*	*4.3*	*5.5*	*.3*	*- .9*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*4.3*	*3.7*	*4.1*	*.6*	*.2*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*6.5*	*6.0*	*6.3*	*.5*	*.2*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*23.1*	*22.7*	*23.1*	*.4*	*.0*
40 Railroad Transportation	*6.9*	*8.9*	*7.5*	*.0*	*- .6*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*6.8*	*6.5*	*6.8*	*.3*	*.0*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*9.3*	*9.3*	*8.9*	*.0*	*.4*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*74.4*	*73.6*	*74.4*	*.8*	*.0*
Wholesale Trade	*17.5*	*17.5*	*17.5*	*.0*	*.0*
Retail Trade	*56.9*	*56.1*	*56.9*	*.8*	*.0*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.4*	*.0*	*- .1*
54 Food Stores	*7.8*	*7.6*	*7.7*	*.2*	*.1*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.6*	*8.6*	*8.9*	*.0*	*- .3*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*21.2*	*20.7*	*20.8*	*.5*	*.4*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*11.0*	*10.9*	*11.1*	*.1*	*- .1*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*12.8*	*12.9*	*12.6*	*- .1*	*.2*
SERVICES	*56.9*	*55.9*	*54.6*	*1.0*	*2.3*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*6.3*	*6.1*	*6.3*	*.2*	*.0*
72 Personal Services	*2.5*	*2.6*	*2.6*	*- .1*	*- .1*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*18.9*	*18.6*	*17.4*	*.3*	*1.5*
Other Services	*29.2*	*28.6*	*28.3*	*.6*	*.9*
GOVERNMENT	*72.7*	*71.6*	*71.2*	*1.1*	*1.5*
91 Federal Government	*12.3*	*11.6*	*13.5*	*.7*	*-1.2*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.5*	*.0*	*- .2*
92 Other State Government	*10.6*	*10.6*	*10.7*	*.0*	*- .1*
93 Local Education	*26.5*	*26.5*	*24.4*	*.0*	*2.1*
93 Other Local Government	*15.0*	*14.6*	*14.0*	*.4*	*1.0*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(Establishment Data in italics)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

May 1980

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1980	May 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	33.4	33.1	34.2	.3	-.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	31.6	30.9	32.4	.7	-.8
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	1.8	2.2	1.8	-.4	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/.....	*5.4*	*6.7*	*5.3*	*-1.3*	*.1*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/..	*6.5*	*7.1*	*6.4*	*-.6*	*.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*29.8*	*29.3*	*30.3*	*.5*	*-.5*
Manufacturing	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*1.7*	*1.4*	*2.1*	*.3*	*-.4*
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
Trade	*9.5*	*9.4*	*9.7*	*.1*	*-.2*
Wholesale Trade	*2.8*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*.1*	*.1*
Retail Trade	*6.7*	*6.7*	*7.0*	*0*	*-.3*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*0*	*0*
Services and Mining	*6.9*	*6.9*	*6.8*	*0*	*.1*
Government	*6.0*	*5.9*	*6.1*	*.1*	*-.1*
Federal Government	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*0*	*-.1*
State and Local Government	*4.2*	*4.1*	*4.2*	*.1*	*0*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

May 1980

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1980	May 1979
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	56.6	56.6	54.8	0	1.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	54.5	54.0	53.1	.5	1.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.6	1.5	1.6	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.1	2.6	1.7	-.5	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*3.7*	*4.5*	*3.1*	*-.8*	*.6*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*4.4*	*4.6*	*3.8*	*-.2*	*.6*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*49.1*	*48.8*	*47.2*	*.3*	*1.9*
Manufacturing	*4.5*	*4.5*	*4.3*	*0*	*.2*
Contract Construction	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.6*	*-.1*	*-.3*
Transportation and Public Utilties	*5.1*	*5.0*	*4.8*	*.1*	*.3*
Trade	*16.2*	*16.3*	*15.9*	*-.1*	*.3*
Wholesale Trade	*5.7*	*5.7*	*5.3*	*0*	*.4*
Retail Trade	*10.5*	*10.6*	*10.7*	*-.1*	*-.2*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*0*	*0*
Services and Mining	*10.7*	*10.3*	*9.6*	*.4*	*1.1*
Government	*8.0*	*8.0*	*7.6*	*0*	*.4*
Federal Government	*1.6*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*.1*	*.1*
State and Local Government	*6.4*	*6.5*	*6.1*	*-.1*	*.3*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1980
STATEWIDE	364.3	373.1	378.2	340.5	348.7	359.2	23.8	24.4	19.0	*6.5*	*6.5*	*5.0*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.0	33.1	33.4	30.8	30.9	31.6	2.2	2.2	1.8	*6.8*	*6.7*	*5.4*
BILLINGS SMSA	56.6	56.6	56.6	53.6	54.0	54.5	3.0	2.6	2.1	*5.3*	*4.5*	*3.7*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	274.7	283.4	288.2	256.1	263.8	273.1	18.6	19.6	15.1	*6.7*	*6.9*	*5.2*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	32.5	33.3	33.6	30.5	31.2	31.9	2.0	2.1	1.7	*6.1*	*6.3*	*5.1*
BOZEMAN	26.1	26.3	26.6	24.4	24.6	25.2	1.7	1.7	1.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	*5.1*
GLASGOW	17.3	18.0	18.2	16.5	17.4	17.7	.8	.6	.5	*4.3*	*3.3*	*2.7*
GLENDIVE	14.3	14.8	15.4	13.8	14.4	15.1	.5	.4	.3	*3.6*	*2.8*	*2.1*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.4	13.1	13.4	11.7	12.4	12.9	.7	.7	.5	*5.7*	*5.1*	*3.6*
HAVRE	13.1	13.6	13.9	12.3	12.8	13.3	.8	.8	.6	*6.1*	*5.5*	*4.3*
HELENA	27.3	28.3	28.6	25.8	26.8	27.4	1.5	1.5	1.2	*5.5*	*5.3*	*4.2*
KALISPELL	39.7	40.0	40.5	35.4	35.0	36.7	4.3	5.0	3.8	*10.9*	*12.5*	*9.5*
LEWISTOWN	10.8	11.7	12.0	10.3	11.1	11.6	.5	.6	.4	*4.3*	*5.0*	*3.5*
MILES CITY	14.7	15.3	15.7	14.0	14.6	15.1	.7	.7	.6	*5.0*	*4.4*	*3.7*
MISSOULA	49.6	51.3	51.7	45.6	46.6	48.3	4.0	4.7	3.4	*8.0*	*9.2*	*6.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.9	17.9	18.4	15.8	16.9	17.7	1.1	1.0	.7	*6.4*	*5.5*	*4.0*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	May 1980	May 1979	Percent Change 1979-1980	May 1980	May 1979	Percent Change 1979-1980	May 1980	May 1979	Net Change 1979-1980	May 1980	May 1979	Net Change 1979-1980
STATEWIDE	378.2	372.0	*1.7*	359.2	355.3	*1.1*	19.0	16.7	*2.3*	5.0	4.5	*.5*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.4	34.2	*-2.3*	31.6	32.4	*-2.5*	1.8	1.8	*0*	5.4	5.3	*.1*
BILLINGS SMSA	56.6	54.8	*3.3*	54.5	53.1	*2.7*	2.1	1.7	*.4*	3.7	3.1	*.6*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	288.2	283.0	*1.8*	273.1	269.8	*1.2*	15.1	13.2	*1.9*	5.2	4.7	*.5*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.6	34.6	*-2.9*	31.9	32.8	*-2.7*	1.7	1.8	*-.1*	5.1	5.2	*-.1*
BOZEMAN	26.6	26.8	*-.7*	25.2	25.8	*-2.3*	1.4	1.0	*.4*	5.1	3.7	*1.4*
GLASGOW	18.2	17.5	*4.0*	17.7	16.9	*4.7*	.5	.6	*-.1*	2.7	3.6	*-.8*
GLENDIVE	15.4	15.3	*.7*	15.1	14.9	*1.3*	.3	.4	*-.1*	2.1	2.6	*-.5*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.4	13.3	*.8*	12.9	12.9	*0*	.5	.4	*.1*	3.6	3.2	*.4*
HAVRE	13.9	13.4	*3.7*	13.3	12.9	*3.1*	.6	.5	*.1*	4.3	3.7	*.6*
HELENA	28.6	28.7	*-.3*	27.4	27.4	*0*	1.2	1.3	*-.1*	4.2	4.4	*-.2*
KALISPELL	40.5	37.9	*6.7*	36.7	35.2	*4.3*	3.8	2.7	*1.1*	9.5	7.2	*2.3*
LEWISTOWN	12.0	11.7	*2.6*	11.6	11.3	*2.7*	.4	.4	*0*	3.5	3.1	*.4*
MILES CITY	15.7	15.8	*-.6*	15.1	15.3	*-1.3*	.6	.5	*.1*	3.7	3.1	*.6*
MISSOULA	51.7	50.0	*3.4*	48.3	47.1	*2.5*	3.4	2.9	*.5*	6.6	5.8	*.8*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.4	18.1	*1.7*	17.7	17.4	*1.7*	.7	.7	*0*	4.0	4.0	*0*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE IX A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
MAY 1980

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	378258	359244	19014	5.0
CASCADE	33447	31640	1807	5.4
YELLOWSTONE	56571	54493	2078	3.7
BEAVERHEAD	4061	3919	142	3.5
BIG HORN	6341	6086	255	4.0
BLAINE	3431	3231	200	5.8
BROADWATER	1870	1756	114	6.1
CARBON	3107	2983	124	4.0
CARTER	928	857	71	7.7
CHOUTEAU	3254	3211	43	1.3
CUSTER	6436	6211	225	3.5
DANIELS	1487	1473	14	.9
DAWSON	5832	5707	125	2.1
DEER LODGE	5074	4830	244	4.8
FALLON	2352	2314	38	1.6
FERGUS	6393	6182	211	3.3
FLATHEAD	24567	22436	2131	8.7
GALLATIN	19446	18517	929	4.8
GARFIELD	855	835	20	2.3
GLACIER	5489	5079	410	7.5
GOLDEN VALLEY	410	397	13	3.2
GRANITE	1092	1014	78	7.1
HILL	9267	8886	381	4.1
JEFFERSON	2233	2112	121	5.4
JUDITH BASIN	1267	1176	91	7.2
LAKE	8394	7921	473	5.6
LEWIS AND CLARK	24508	23555	953	3.9
LIBERTY	1226	1202	24	2.0
LINCOLN	7537	6298	1239	16.4
MC CONE	1251	1223	28	2.2
MADISON	2460	2366	94	3.8
MEAGHER	1113	1029	89	8.0
MINERAL	2031	1775	256	12.6
MISSOULA	37574	35368	2206	5.9
MUSSELSHELL	2344	2294	50	2.1
PARK	6041	5706	335	5.5
PETROLEUM	372	364	8	2.2
PHILLIPS	2818	2732	86	3.1
PONDERA	3718	3593	125	3.4
POWDER RIVER	1228	1198	30	2.4
POWELL	3570	3357	213	6.0
PRAIRIE	826	810	16	1.9
RAVALLI	8425	7824	601	7.1
RICHLAND	5912	5797	115	1.9
ROOSEVELT	5822	5646	176	3.0
ROSEBUD	4329	4120	209	4.8
SANDERS	3691	3339	352	9.5
SHERIDAN	3261	3232	29	.9
SILVER BOW	17383	16450	933	5.4
STILLWATER	2206	2133	73	3.3
SWEET GRASS	1777	1751	26	1.5
TETON	2897	2829	68	2.3
TOOLE	3063	2972	91	3.0
TREASURE	475	463	12	2.5
VALLEY	4853	4670	183	3.8
WHEATLAND	1213	1170	43	3.5
WIBAUX	725	712	13	1.8

TABLE IX-B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
APRIL 1980

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	373138	348700	24438	6.5
CASCADE	33154	30935	2219	6.7
YELLOWSTONE	56561	54001	2560	4.5
BEAVERHEAD	4012	3847	165	4.1
BIG HORN	6102	5754	348	5.7
BLAINE	3385	3122	263	7.8
BROADWATER	1841	1711	130	7.1
CARBON	3087	2915	172	5.6
CARTER	932	829	103	11.1
CHOUTEAU	3120	3056	64	2.1
CUSTER	6135	5888	247	4.0
DANIELS	1542	1520	22	1.4
DAWSON	5571	5397	174	3.1
DEER LODGE	5033	4720	316	6.3
FALLON	2304	2253	51	2.2
FERGUS	6156	5844	312	5.1
FLATHEAD	23994	21488	2506	10.4
GALLATIN	19234	18121	1113	5.8
GARFIELD	832	799	33	4.0
GLACIER	5240	4749	491	9.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	427	397	30	7.0
GRANITE	1088	977	111	10.2
HILL	9049	8590	459	5.1
JEFFERSON	2204	2058	146	6.6
JUDITH BASIN	1249	1134	115	9.2
LAKE	8116	7570	546	6.7
LEWIS AND CLARK	24269	23058	1211	5.0
LIBERTY	1156	1128	28	2.4
LINCOLN	7854	5912	1942	24.7
MC CONE	1228	1195	33	2.7
MADISON	2393	2265	128	5.3
MEAGHER	1066	979	87	8.2
MINERAL	1816	1560	256	14.1
MISSOULA	37254	34322	2932	7.9
MUSSELSHELL	2297	2262	35	1.5
PARK	6017	5488	529	8.8
PETROLEUM	339	330	9	2.7
PHILLIPS	2736	2643	93	3.4
PONDERA	3614	3470	144	4.0
POWDER RIVER	1205	1179	26	2.2
POWELL	3540	3270	270	7.6
PRAIRIE	794	774	20	2.5
RAVALLI	8376	7487	889	10.6
RICHLAND	5698	5563	135	2.4
ROOSEVELT	5885	5655	230	3.9
ROSEBUD	4250	4024	226	5.3
SANDERS	3819	3197	622	16.3
SHERIDAN	3071	3038	33	1.1
SILVER BOW	17195	16076	1119	6.5
STILLWATER	2165	2052	113	5.2
SWEET GRASS	1703	1675	28	1.6
TETON	2916	2756	160	5.5
TOOLE	2962	2845	117	4.0
TREASURE	487	468	19	3.9
VALLEY	4741	4527	214	4.5
WHEATLAND	1226	1148	78	6.4
WIBAUX	695	679	16	2.3

TABLE X

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

May 1980

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	May 1980 1/	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Apr. 1980	May 1979	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						May 1980		April 1980	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	129.4	129.4	128.1	0	1.3	286.5	*45.2*	280.6	*46.1*
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	3.0	0	-.4	23.6	*11.0*	22.4	*11.6*
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	7.7	*6.5*	7.5	*6.7*
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	-.1	15.3	*9.2*	14.0	*10.0*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.3	4.4	0	-.1	23.1	*18.6*	22.7	*18.9*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.8	35.7	36.5	.1	-.7	74.4	*48.1*	73.6	*48.5*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.4	8.5	0	-.1	12.8	*65.6*	12.9	*65.1*
Services	34.4	34.5	35.0	-.1	-.6	56.9	*60.4*	55.9	*61.7*
Government 2/	42.0	41.9	38.9	.1	3.1	72.7	*57.8*	71.6	*58.5*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1979 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1979

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	126.7	122.4	124.2	126.5	128.1	129.1	127.7	128.5	130.4	130.3	132.6	132.7	128.2
Manufacturing.....	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2
Mining.....	.4	.4	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction.....	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	38.7	35.6	35.7	35.7	36.5	36.8	36.3	36.0	37.0	36.9	36.8	37.2	36.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4
Services.....	35.0	34.8	35.0	34.7	35.0	34.9	34.1	34.3	34.7	35.1	35.3	35.2	34.8
Government.....	35.7	34.8	36.2	38.8	38.9	38.9	38.7	38.8	40.3	39.9	42.5	42.5	38.8

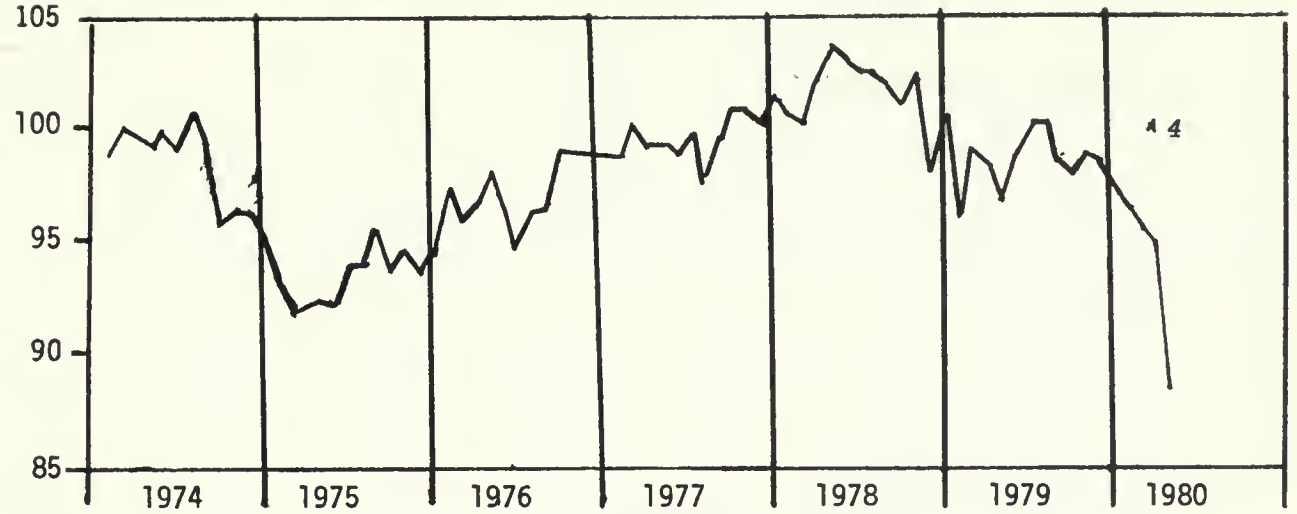
1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.4
Manufacturing.....	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Transport. & Public Utilities.	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	35.8
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
Services	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.4
Government.....	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.0

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.* *Establishment Series began January, 1974.* *Revised to 1979 Benchmark*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



INDEX 1972 = 100

MONTHLY FIGURES
of COMPOSITE INDEX

1978	
January	100.6
Feburary	*100.2*
March	102.2
April	102.8
May	103.1
1979	
January	*96.1*
February	98.6
March	*98.2*
April	*96.4*
May	98.5
June	100.4
July	*100.3*
August	*98.9*
September	*98.4*
October	99.2
November	*98.5*
December	*97.8*
1980	
January	*96.7*
February	*95.6*
March	*95.1*
April	*88.6*

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

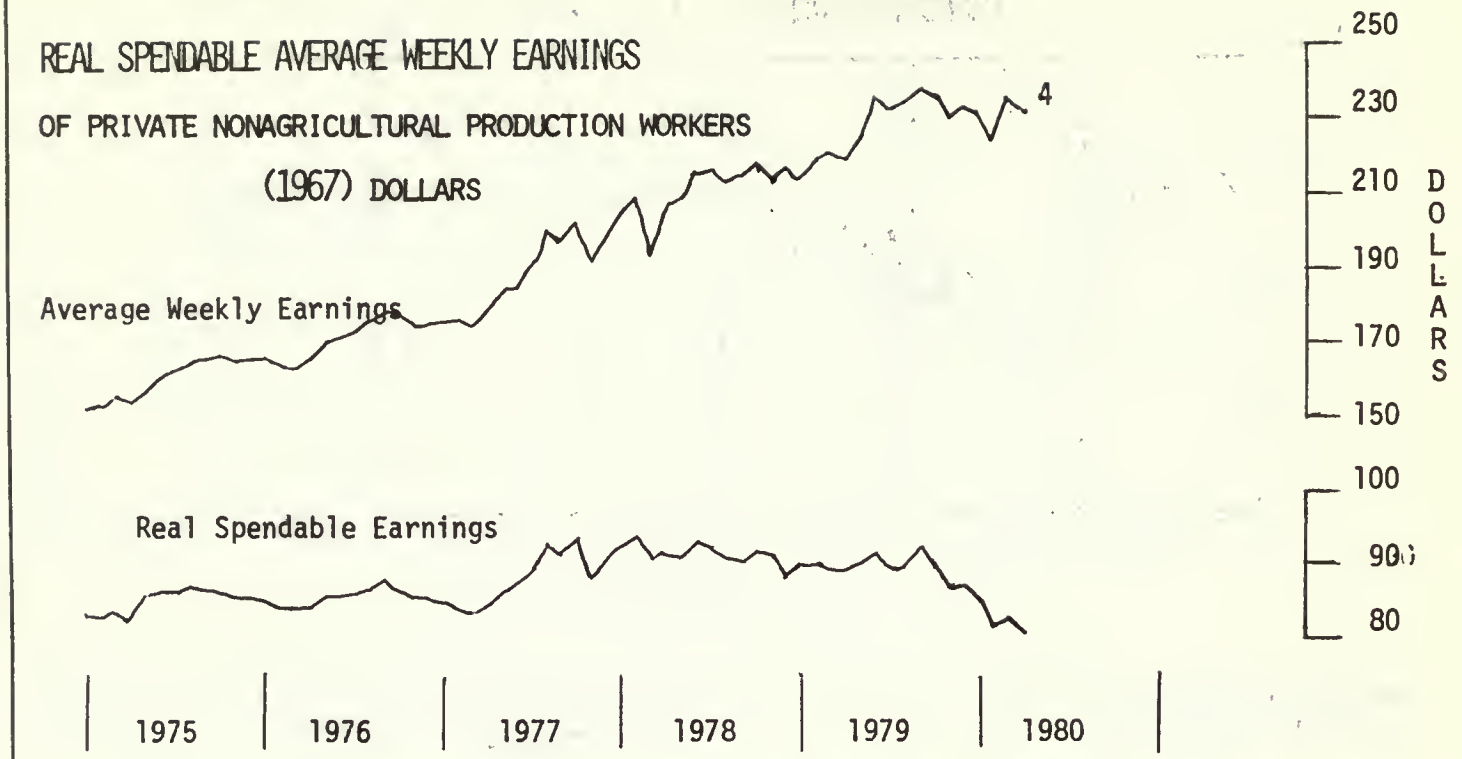
The major factor in the sharp decline of Montana's Composite Index for April, 1980 was the heavy layoffs in the lumber and woods industry brought on, in part, by extremely high interest rates. Five of the six indicators used in computing Montana's Composite Index reflected negative movement during April. The Index dropped by 6.5 points to 88.6. The only indicator with positive movement was Building Permits, where they rose from 432 in March to 498 in April.

Although a sharp decline was noted in April, preliminary indications are looking up in May. Layoffs and Acessions are expected to make a big turnaround during May. The Composite Index is expected to move back up into the 90's during May.

Components of Composite Index

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.

* *Indicates last month of plotted data.*
** *Figures in italics indicate declines from previous month.*



	April 1980	March 1980	April 1979
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	232.23	234.24	220.68
3/ Taxes Withheld	35.88	36.46	33.08
Spendable Earnings	196.35	197.77	187.60
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	115.41	115.33	98.90
Real Spendable Earnings	80.94	82.44	88.10

	1) Average Weekly Earnings	2) Real Spendable Earnings
1979		
Jan.	215.42	89.20
Feb.	219.57	89.60
Mar.	221.43	89.29
Apr.	220.68	88.10
May	225.42	88.52
June	236.99	91.26
July	233.87	89.41
Aug.	234.99	88.73
Sept.	238.74	91.96
Oct.	236.90	89.02
Nov.	230.62	86.23
Dec.	233.24	86.12
1980		
Jan.	232.60	84.36
Feb.	224.93	80.79
Mar.	234.24	82.44
Apr.	232.23	80.94

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

After an increase in March, Montana's Real Spendable Earnings again turned downward. A decrease of 1.8% left Real Spendable Earnings at $80.94 per week. This April's number compares to $88.10 in April, 1979, a decrease of 8.8% over the twelve month period.

The Consumer Price Index, reflecting the growth of inflation, rose by only 1.1% in April. This is the smallest increase recorded since December, 1979. At the same time, Gross Average Weekly Earnings increased only slightly during April, with an upward movement of 0.8%, compared to a 5.2% increase since April of 1979.

** Indicates last month of plotted data.*
1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers
2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.
3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XII

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1978								
January	358.4	335.5	302.1	33.4	22.9	6.4	6.3	*
February	360.0	337.4	303.8	33.6	22.6	6.3	6.1	*
March	364.2	340.1	306.6	33.5	24.1	6.6	6.2	*
April	366.1	344.3	312.0	32.3	21.8	6.0	6.1	*
May	367.7	346.1	313.0	33.1	21.6	5.9	6.1	.1
June	368.9	346.6	313.5	33.1	22.3	6.0	5.8	.4
July	372.2	349.9	316.8	33.1	22.3	6.0	6.1	.2
August	371.9	349.8	316.9	32.9	22.1	5.9	5.9	.1
September	372.6	351.0	318.3	32.7	21.6	5.8	5.9	.1
October	370.7	350.5	317.9	32.6	20.2	5.4	5.8	.1
November	371.8	350.4	317.8	32.6	21.4	5.8	5.8	*
December	371.5	350.3	317.6	32.7	21.2	5.7	5.9	*
Avg.	368.0	346.0	313.0	33.0	22.0	6.0	6.0	.1
1979								
January	370.3	346.8	314.1	32.7	23.5	6.4	5.8	*
February	368.4	347.5	314.8	32.7	20.9	5.7	5.7	1.8
March	366.8	347.3	314.7	32.6	19.5	5.3	5.7	*
April	367.9	347.6	315.2	32.4	20.3	5.5	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.9	32.2	19.4	5.2	5.8	*
June	371.5	352.9	320.8	32.1	18.6	5.0	5.7	*
July	368.7	350.0	318.1	31.9	18.7	5.1	5.7	*
August	368.0	350.7	318.9	31.8	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
September	369.9	352.8	320.9	31.9	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
October	372.2	354.9	322.9	32.0	17.3	4.7	5.9	*
November	372.5	355.4	323.4	32.0	17.1	4.6	5.8	*
December	373.5	355.1	323.0	32.1	18.4	4.9	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.2
1980								
January	370.3	348.4	316.3	32.1	21.9	5.9	6.2	*
February	374.1	353.1	321.1	32.0	21.0	5.6	6.0	1.1
March	377.8	357.1	325.3	31.8	20.7	5.5	6.2	.7
April	377.5	353.0	321.5	31.5	24.5	6.5	7.0	.3
May	376.7	355.0	323.6	31.4	21.7	5.8	7.8	.2
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1978								
January	33.3	30.9	29.6	1.3	2.4	7.2	6.4	*
February	34.2	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.6	7.5	6.3	*
March	34.0	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.4	7.1	6.6	*
April	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.0	*
May	34.5	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.3	6.6	5.9	*
June	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.0	*
July	34.2	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.3	6.8	6.0	*
August	34.7	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.4	6.9	5.9	*
September	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.1	5.8	*
October	34.3	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.4	*
November	34.2	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.5	7.4	5.8	*
December	34.6	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.6	7.5	5.7	*
Avg.	34.3	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.4	7.0	6.0	*
1979								
January	34.6	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.7	7.8	6.4	*
February	34.7	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.5	7.2	5.7	*
March	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.5	5.3	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.7	5.5	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.4	5.2	*
June	34.3	32.2	30.9	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.0	*
July	34.2	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
August	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.9	4.7	*
September	33.7	31.8	20.5	1.3	1.9	5.5	4.6	*
October	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.3	4.7	*
November	33.5	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.8	5.4	4.6	*
December	33.4	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.8	5.5	4.9	
Avg.	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	33.3	31.0	29.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.9	*
February	33.6	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.6	*
March	33.8	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.7	31.3	30.1	1.2	2.4	7.1	6.5	*
May	33.5	31.3	30.1	1.2	2.2	6.5	5.8	.2
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1978								
January	52.0	49.4	47.9	1.5	2.6	5.1	6.4	*
February	52.3	49.7	48.2	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.3	*
March	53.1	50.1	48.6	1.5	3.0	5.6	6.6	*
April	52.8	50.4	48.9	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.0	*
May	53.3	50.8	49.3	1.5	2.5	4.7	5.9	*
June	53.6	51.1	49.6	1.5	2.5	4.6	6.0	*
July	53.3	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.4	4.6	6.0	*
August	54.0	51.5	50.0	1.5	2.5	4.6	5.9	*
September	54.4	52.0	50.5	1.5	2.4	4.5	5.8	*
October	54.0	51.9	50.4	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
November	54.4	51.7	50.2	1.5	2.7	4.9	5.8	*
December	54.2	51.8	50.3	1.5	2.4	4.4	5.7	*
Avg.	53.4	50.9	49.4	1.5	2.5	4.7	6.0	*
1979								
January	54.8	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.6	4.8	6.4	*
February	54.7	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.3	4.2	5.7	*
March	54.5	52.4	50.9	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.3	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.5	*
May	55.3	53.2	51.7	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.2	53.3	51.8	1.5	1.9	3.4	5.0	*
July	55.9	53.9	52.4	1.5	2.0	3.5	5.1	*
August	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.7	*
September	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	3.3	4.6	*
October	55.5	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.8	3.2	4.7	*
November	55.9	54.0	52.5	1.5	1.9	3.5	4.6	*
December	55.8	53.9	52.4	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
Avg.	55.3	53.3	51.8	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.6	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.9	*
February	57.5	54.8	53.3	1.5	2.7	4.7	5.6	.7
March	58.1	55.4	53.9	1.5	2.7	4.7	5.5	.3
April	57.4	54.7	53.3	1.4	2.7	4.6	6.5	*
May	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.4	5.8	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1979 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

May 1980

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979	May 1980	Apr. 1980	May 1979
TOTAL PRIVATE	$230.81	232.23	225.42	34.5	36.4	36.3	6.69	6.38	6.21
MANUFACTURING	392.75	371.70	353.90	45.3	41.3	43.8	8.67	9.00	8.08
Durable Goods	410.44	375.46	360.19	46.8	40.9	44.8	8.77	9.30	8.04
Primary Metal Industries	402.35	427.99	379.93	40.6	40.8	39.7	9.91	10.49	9.57
Nondurable Goods	360.40	358.26	339.47	42.5	42.0	41.5	8.48	8.53	8.18
Food and Kindred Products	300.61	298.15	270.08	44.8	44.5	42.2	6.71	6.70	6.40
MINING	411.03	416.09	459.36	48.7	49.3	49.5	8.44	8.44	9.28
Metal Mining	398.31	398.31	444.28	35.5	35.5	40.5	11.22	11.22	10.97
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	375.92	377.85	352.60	37.0	37.0	34.4	10.16	10.13	10.25
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	334.59	334.65	334.90	42.3	42.2	42.5	7.91	7.93	7.88
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	360.39	361.37	324.51	49.1	48.9	43.9	7.35	7.39	7.46
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	172.02	190.63	175.63	30.5	33.8	33.2	5.64	5.64	5.29
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	157.97	158.73	144.67	33.9	33.7	34.2	4.66.	4.71	4.23
SERVICES	147.42	148.68	141.88	31.3	34.1	33.7	4.71	4.36	4.21

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

TABLE XVI

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1980	Apr. 1979
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	2.9	0.9	1.0	1.9	0.6	0.5	0.8	19.7	2.8	2.8	0.8	0.7	1.2	18.6	1.5	0.6
Durable Goods	1.2	1.5	1.9	0.3	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.2	30.7	3.2	2.4	0.4	0.5	1.0	30.1	2.2	0.0
Primary Metal Industries	1.7	1.3	2.3	0.1	0.1	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.2	1.0	1.9	5.6	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2
Nondurable Goods	2.3	1.7	4.8	2.0	1.7	2.8	0.3	0.0	2.0	2.7	2.0	3.6	1.4	1.1	1.5	0.8	0.1	1.7
MINING	7.2	15.5	5.7	6.0	11.7	2.8	0.8	2.5	2.4	6.7	8.1	1.6	1.9	2.2	1.5	0.2	4.8	0.0
Metal Mining	2.7	5.8	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.6	8.2	2.0	2.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	May 1980	May 1979	Year to Date 1980	Year to Date 1979
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	17	27	146	169
MINING	32	30	138	100
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	26	59	214	323
MANUFACTURING	10	24	93	111
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	11	19	99	105
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	76	90	533	492
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	28	46	202	226
SERVICES NON-PROFIT SERVICES	83 (21)	117 (11)	664 (160)	636 (86)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	3	41	65	67
STATE TOTAL	286	453	2154	2229

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS May 1980	May 1979	Year to Date 1980	1979
STATE OF MONTANA	286	453	2164	2229
GREAT FALLS SMSA	24	34	158	169
BILLINGS SMSA	30	79	300	376
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	41	INA	228	INA
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	27	23	140	144
Beaverhead	3	5	23	12
Deer Lodge	2	1	9	7
Granite	0	0	6	6
Madison	8	1	23	17
Powell	5	2	20	7
Silver Bow	9	14	59	70
BOZEMAN LMA	12	30	141	142
Gallatin	11	25	103	131
Meagher	0	0	7	3
Park	1	5	31	37
GLASGOW LMA	8	12	68	122
Daniels	0	0	4	6
Phillips	0	2	12	14
Roosevelt	3	2	22	11
Sheridan	3	4	14	14
Valley	2	4	16	24
GLENDIVE LMA	19	22	133	122
Dawson	4	3	34	25
Garfield	0	3	3	5
McCone	0	0	13	5
Prairie	0	0	6	3
Richland	15	16	76	81
Wibaux	0	0	1	3
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	5	10	49	54
Big Horn	0	5	12	16
Carbon	1	3	14	23
Stillwater	2	2	16	8
Sweet Grass	2	0	7	7

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS May 1980	May 1979	Year to Date 1980	1979
HAVRE LMA	14	15	63	58
Blaine	8	1	19	8
Hill	6	12	36	44
Liberty	0	2	8	6
HELENA LMA	18	37	136	191
Broadwater	2	4	4	15
Jefferson	0	1	8	16
Lewis and Clark	16	32	124	160
KALISPELL LMA	36	51	263	276
Flathead	26	34	177	183
Lake	7	7	44	46
Lincoln	3	10	42	49
LEWISTOWN LMA	6	8	45	39
Fergus	3	3	27	21
Golden Valley	0	0	2	1
Judith Basin	1	2	4	6
Musselshell	2	2	10	8
Petroleum	0	0	1	0
Wheatland	0	1	1	3
MILES CITY LMA	10	8	72	54
Carter	1	0	5	0
Custer	5	4	20	28
Fallon	3	2	23	13
Powder River	0	1	6	2
Rosebud	1	0	17	9
Treasure	0	1	1	2
MISSOULA LMA	18	62	260	365
Mineral	2	0	7	5
Missoula	11	40	185	266
Ravalli	5	20	50	75
Sanders	0	2	18	19
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	18	21	108	100
Choteau	1	2	15	20
Glacier	4	3	32	18
Pondera	2	6	21	25
Teton	3	3	11	10
Toole	8	7	29	27

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETA5-1598 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

MAY 1980

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	258	25,496.93
BIGHORN	199	18,100.96
BLAINE	195	17,424.27
BROADWATER	329	34,223.55
CARBON	242	22,263.12
CARTER	14	1,334.00
CASCADE	3,383	305,155.95
CHOUTEAU	55	4,718.00
CUSTER	228	18,199.76
DANIELS	14	1,392.00
DAWSON	101	9,425.00
DEER LODGE	548	46,506.45
FALLON	32	2,760.00
FERGUS	331	26,044.00
FLATHEAD	5,495	515,066.63
GALLATIN	1,825	159,348.23
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	504	40,505.23
GOLDEN VALLEY	14	1,457.00
GRANITE	122	10,364.14
HILL	557	49,157.10
JEFFERSON	151	12,996.36
JUDITH BASIN	31	2,490.00
LAKE	834	72,174.67
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,568	140,860.05
LIBERTY	18	1,978.00
LINCOLN	4,312	451,597.76
MCCONE	16	1,284.00
MADISON	104	9,831.02
MEAGHER	84	7,446.00
MINERAL	696	78,762.35
MISSOULA	5,883	572,276.84
MUSSELSHELL	55	5,802.00
PARK	687	64,387.42
PETROLEUM	5	445.00
PHILLIPS	92	6,794.00
PONDERA	133	12,121.48
POWDER RIVER	2	220.00
POWELL	497	48,364.71
PRAIRIE	17	1,496.00
RAVALLI	1,599	150,214.72
RICHLAND	112	9,199.64
ROOSEVELT	131	10,087.94
ROSEBUD	174	16,226.37
SANDERS	1,138	110,690.95
SHERIDAN	5	396.00
SILVER BOW	1,768	156,555.61
STILLWATER	180	15,312.00
SWEET GRASS	36	3,794.00
TETON	90	7,883.48
TOOLE	104	8,422.92
TREASURE	5	572.00
VALLEY	307	26,875.90
WHEATLAND	41	3,366.00
WIBAUX	16	967.00
YELLOWSTONE	3,802	350,326.53
INTRASTATE	39,139	3,671,887.17
INTERSTATE	1,336	186,208.23
TOTAL	40,475	3,858,095.40

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1980 THRU MAY 1980

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,581	145,861.54
BIGHORN	2,201	194,811.90
BLAINE	1,681	146,828.55
BROADWATER	1,170	116,816.29
CARBON	1,837	179,953.51
CARTER	102	9,186.52
CASCADE	24,157	2,265,002.59
CHOUTEAU	390	31,214.56
CUSTER	2,097	187,977.04
DANIELS	128	11,603.26
DAWSON	1,296	126,848.05
DEER LODGE	3,448	305,916.35
FALLON	308	28,525.60
FERGUS	2,747	240,515.63
FLATHEAD	25,215	2,303,964.13
GALLATIN	12,366	1,114,846.72
GARFIELD	32	3,215.00
GLACIER	4,099	333,377.45
GOLDEN VALLEY	76	7,190.00
GRANITE	721	57,598.54
HILL	4,447	391,469.15
JEFFERSON	1,447	148,438.99
JUDITH BASIN	205	17,449.14
LAKE	5,721	509,295.72
LEWIS AND CLARK	11,673	1,075,726.04
LIBERTY	261	26,387.80
LINCOLN	15,119	1,446,744.63
MCCONE	136	9,881.00
MADISON	697	58,486.13
MEAGHER	343	29,476.80
MINERAL	2,572	255,217.38
MISSOULA	29,705	2,743,104.90
MUSSELSHELL	385	39,313.00
PARK	4,380	379,792.94
PETROLEUM	52	4,092.50
PHILLIPS	870	77,097.82
PONDERA	1,475	143,878.79
POWDER RIVER	149	15,320.00
POWELL	2,128	193,323.57
PRAIRIE	285	26,011.92
RAVALLI	9,075	799,224.50
RICHLAND	892	78,963.74
ROOSEVELT	1,268	101,993.36
ROSEBUD	1,786	161,097.81
SANDERS	5,482	520,355.67
SHERIDAN	217	18,733.00
SILVER BOW	10,949	1,004,763.74
STILLWATER	1,243	117,522.00
SWEET GRASS	277	29,733.37
TETON	1,062	97,553.49
TOOLE	1,247	119,909.51
TREASURE	83	9,284.00
VALLEY	2,252	206,577.17
WHEATLAND	133	11,987.65
WIBAUX	119	9,646.80
YELLOWSTONE	29,621	2,903,328.39
INTRASTATE	233,408	21,596,197.70
INTERSTATE	8,196	882,664.13
TOTAL	241,604	22,478,861.83

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1980	1979	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	27,748	22,666	5,082	*22.4*
Continued Claims[1/]	284,000	253,595	30,405	*12.0*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	241,604	216,167	25,437	*11.8*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$22,478,860	$18,425,047	$4,053,813	*22.0*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$97.63	$89.10	$8.53	*9.6*

MONTHLY

	MAY 1980	APRIL 1980	MAY 1979	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	3,139	7,203	2,464	675	*27.4*
Continued Claims[1/]	44,941	59,926	36,543	8,398	*23.0*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	40,475	50,888	30,011	10,464	*34.9*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$3,858,095	$4,773,148	$2,533,752	$1,324,343	*52.3*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$100.67	$99.13	$88.10	$12.57	*14.3*
Trust Fund Balance	$17,731,267*	$11,069,913*	$6,214,663**	$11,516,604	*185.3*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
* *Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to* $7,084,089.
** *Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to* $10,484,089.

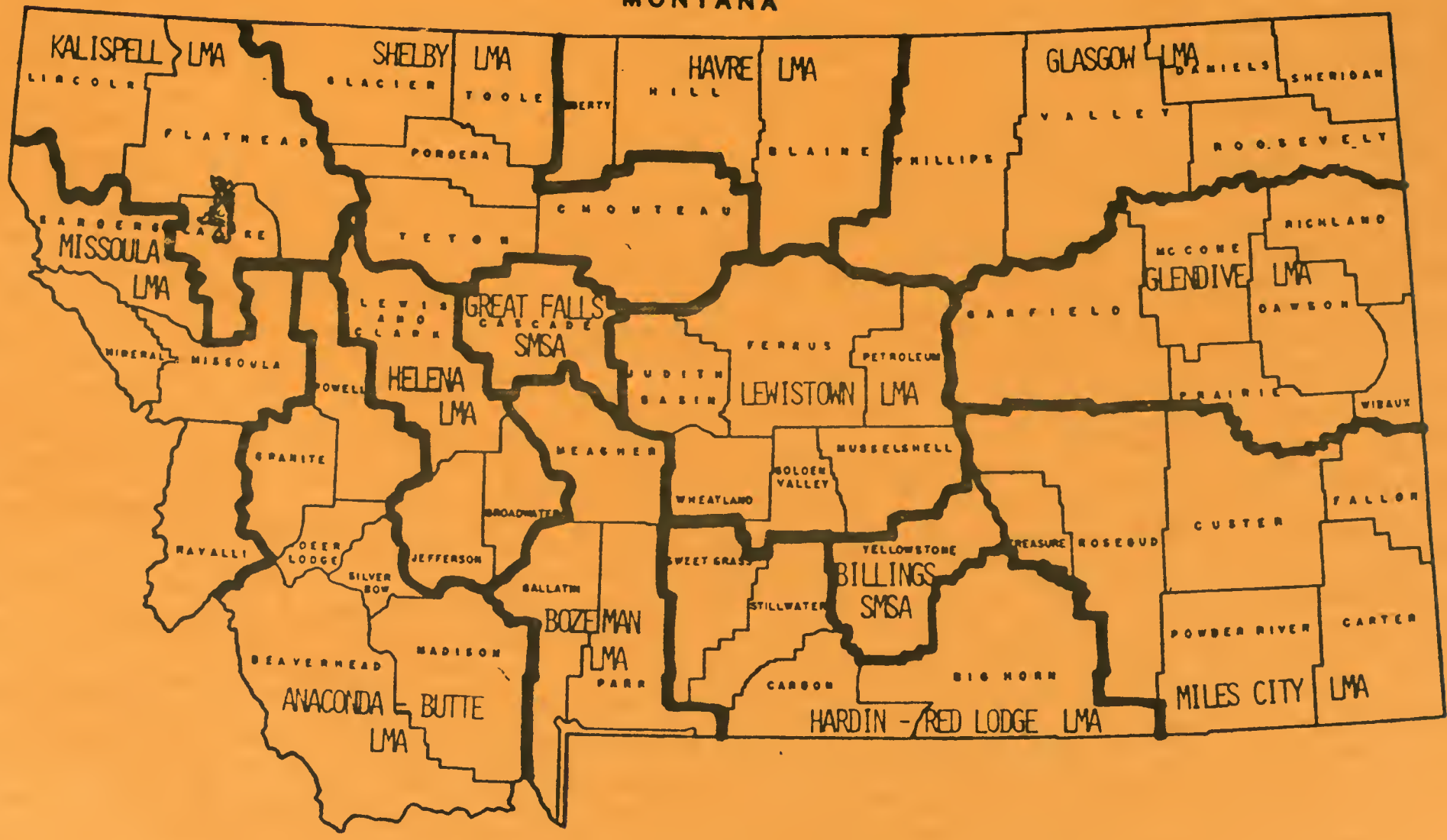
As expected, initial and continued claims decreased considerably from April, but were still much higher than a year ago. The larger than normal drop from last month may indicate that some lay-offs are being re-hired. Cumulative figures show the effects of more claims this year, as compared with a year ago January through May.

In May, the number of benefit payments was about 10,000 fewer than in April, and almost the same amount more than May 1979. Dollar amount of payments also went down this month from April to the lowest this year but was over $1.3 million more than last May. Year-to-date net change from 1979 to 1980 of number and amount of benefits paid was close to 10,000 and $1.5 million more, respectively, than the same period 1978 to 1979.

Average Weekly Benefit Amount for May gained over $1.50 from April and over $12.50 from a year ago. After July 1, 1980 the maximum weekly benefit amount will increase to $131. As the AWBA rises at a faster rate each month, the cumulative figure also moves up from the year ago data.

This is again the mid-quarter month of highest contributions, and with the amount of benefits paid less than in the past few months, the Trust Fund Balance is improving. Late spring is the time for increased job openings but the economic slowdown this year may cause a more than customary drain on the Fund.

LABOR MARKET AREAS
IN
MONTANA



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The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

750 copies of this publication were produced at a unit cost of $.50 per copy, for a total cost of $371.55 which includes 304.05 for printing and $ 67.50 for distribution.